



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
4201 Patterson Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Martin O'Malley Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – John M. Colmers, Secretary

State Board for the Certification of Residential Child Care Program Administrators

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Taskforce to Study Group Home Education and Placement Practices

FROM: Kimberly Mayer
Executive Director

RE: Status Report on the Implementation of Senate Bill 783

DATE: July 28, 2008

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Taskforce to Study Group Home Education and Placement Practices with a status report on the implementation of Senate Bill 783, "Residential Child Care Programs - Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals".

April and May's Achievements - The State Board for the Certification of Residential Child Care Program Administrators (hereinafter "the Board") at its May 9, 2008, meeting approved a work plan to provide a road map to the Board to plan and implement the certification program for residential child and youth care practitioners (RCYCPs). The Board also published a sub-page on its web site dedicated to providing information for certification RCYCPs.

June's Achievements – The Board began the process of reviewing and drafting regulations for the implementation of Senate Bill 783. Discussions were initiated regarding the development of a study guide and Standards Examination. In addition, the Board disseminated a transmittal to all residential child care programs, group home licensing authorities, and certified program administrators alerting them to the new certification requirement and directing them to the Board's web site for periodic updates.

The Board received its FY 2009 Appropriation which did not include any additional funding or positions required for the implementation of Senate Bill 783. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene advised the Board that surplus General Funds are not available to fund any additional positions for FY 2009. In response, the Board submitted an Unfunded Item Request for FY 2010.

July's Achievements – The Board continued the process of reviewing and drafting regulations for the implementation of Senate Bill 783. The Board approved the Summer Newsletter (scheduled for dissemination in August) containing an article and a press release (scheduled for dissemination in September) regarding the certification requirement.

The Board submitted funding requests for the FY 2010 budget for the implementation of Senate Bill 782. The Board requested the FY 2009 positions that were not provided and the positions needed for FY 2010, as noted in the bill's fiscal note. A total of 5 positions were requested. The Board also requested funding for the development of the RCYCP examination and study guide, as well as, additional operational funding to reflect additional staff.

A copy of the Board's work plan is attached.

**WORK PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SENATE BILL 783
CERTIFICATION OF RESIDENTIAL CHILD AND YOUTH CARE PRACTITIONERS (RCYCP)**

TARGET DATE¹:	ACTION:
May – October 2008	RCYCP page developed for web site. COMPLETED. Notice to residential child care programs and certified program administrators regarding upcoming certification requirement and name change of Board. COMPLETED. Article for Summer Newsletter regarding requirement. APPROVED AT JULY MEETING. DISSEMINATED. Press release regarding new certification requirement for RCYCP. APPROVED AT JULY MEETING. FORWARDED TO DHMH'S OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS – 7/15/2008. SCHEDULED FOR DISSEMINATION IN SEPTEMBER.
June – July 2008	Request additional funding for FY 2009 as noted in Fiscal Note. FUNDING DENIED. SUBMITTED UNFUNDED ITEM REQUEST FOR FY 2010; AWAITING DECISION. Request additional funding for FY 2010 as noted in Fiscal Note. Include prior year funding request, if denied. COMPLETED; AWAITING DECISION.
September 2008	Complete name change on appropriate documents and web site. INITIATED.
May - January 2009	Draft regulations. Completed through General Session of Board Meetings. INITIATED.
January 2009	Target date to circulate regulations for informal comment prior to Board vote.
February 2009	Board review of comments received.
March 2009	Target date for Board vote on regulations. If approved, initiate paperwork to promulgate regulations.

¹ Dates are subject to change depending upon a variety of factors including, but not limited to receipt of additional funding which is necessary to implement SB 783.

TARGET DATE²:**ACTION:**

March – June 2009

Discussion regarding standards examination for RCYCP.
INITIATED.

Initiate either MOU or RFP for examination development.

Determine availability and cost of computerized testing.

June – July 2009

Request additional funding for FY 2011 as noted in Fiscal Note. Include prior year funding request, if denied.

August 2009

Develop application form and certification process.

September 2009

Board review/approval application and post to web.

Initiate licensing database changes.

January 2010

Final determination – administration of standards examination.

January – March 2010

Distribute information regarding certification requirement and process to certified program administrators, agencies and licensing authorities.

June – July 2010

Request additional funding for FY 2012 as noted in Fiscal Note. Include prior year funding request, if denied.

Fall 2010

Target date for implementation of certification process for RCYCP.

Note: If funding has not been received, legislation will be needed to extend certification date.

September – October 2010

Second notice regarding certification requirement and process to certified program administrators, agencies, and licensing authorities.

June 2011 – July 2011

Request additional funding for Budget for FY 2013 as noted in Fiscal Note. Include prior year funding request, if denied.

² Dates are subject to change depending upon a variety of factors including, but not limited to receipt of additional funding which is necessary to implement SB 783.

TARGET DATE³:**ACTION:**

September 2011 – October 2011

Third notice regarding certification requirement and process to certified program administrators, agencies, and licensing authorities.

June 2012 – July 2012

Request additional funding for FY 2014 as noted in Fiscal Note. Include prior year funding request, if denied.

September 2012 – October 2012

Fourth notice regarding certification requirement and process to certified program administrators, agencies, and licensing authorities.

June 2013 – July 2013

Budget prep for FY 2015. Include prior year funding request, if denied.

September 2013 – October 2013

Enforcement notice to certified program administrators, agencies, and licensing authorities.

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